

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 170026
ORIGIN ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /011 R

66011

DRAFTED BY ACDA/MA/IR:ATURRENTINE
APPROVED BY ACDA/MA:ARTURRENTINE
ACDA/MA/IR:JCOLEMAN

-----011949 211256Z /43

R 210001Z JUL 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY MEXICO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 170026

FOLLOWING REPEAT GENEVA 4392 ACTION SECSTATE INFO BONN BUCHAREST
LAGOS LIMA LONDON MOSCOW PRAGUE ROME SOFIA STOCKHOLM THE HAGUE
TOKYO NATO USUN 03 JUN 77

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 4392

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PARM, UN

SUBJ: REPORT ON FIRST MEETING OF EXPERT GROUP STUDYING "RE-
DUCTION OF MILITARY BUDGETS"

REF: STATE 124416

1. THE UN EXPERT GROUP ON "REDUCTION OF MILITARY BUDGETS"
MET IN GENEVA FROM MAY 31 THROUGH JUNE 3. IT COMPRISED
GOVERNMENT BUDGETARY EXPERTS FROM THE US, THE UK, JAPAN,
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SWEDEN, AND PERU, ITS CHAIRMAN. THE FOUR DAYS' MEETINGS
WERE ALSO ATTENDED BY OBSERVERS FROM MEXICO AND NIGERIA
AS WELL AS ASSISTANT SECRETARY-GENERAL BJORNERSTEDT
AND THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE FRG TO THE
CCD, AMBASSADOR SCHLAICH. THE ENABLING RESOLUTION 31/87
CALLS FOR AN ANALYSIS OF MEMBER STATES' COMMENTS ON THE
1976 STUDY WHICH PROPOSED A STANDARDIZED FORM FOR REPORT-

ING MILITARY EXPENDITURES. THE EXPERT GROUP HAS ALSO BEEN INVITED TO MAKE FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE REFINEMENT, TESTING, AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE REPORTING INSTRUMENT.

2. THE UNITED STATES' NOMINEE TO THE EXPERT GROUP, DR. JOHN KOEHLER, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF THE CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE, FOCUSED THESE MEETINGS ON THE URGENCY AND IMPORTANCE OF COOPERATION BY COUNTRIES THAT WOULD FACE THE MOST DIFFICULT TECHNICAL PROBLEMS WHICH MUST BE SOLVED BEFORE FULL-SCALE IMPLEMENTATION IS EVEN FEASIBLE. SINCE NIGERIA AND RUMANIA HAD BOTH VOTED FOR UNGA RESOLUTION 31/87, AND MEXICO AND INTROFUCED IT, THE US INDICATED THE DESIRABILITY OF ELICITING FROM THEM AT LEAST WRITTEN CONTRIBUTIONS TO IF NOT ACTUAL PARTICIPATION IN THE WORK OF THE EXPERT GROUP. REPRESENTATIVES OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL, THE FRG, THE UK, NIGERIA, AND MEXICO PRIVATELY INDICATED THAT THEY WOULD TRY TO ELICIT GREATER COOPERATION FROM MEMBER STATES IN GENERAL OR FROM THE ABOVE-MENTIONED ONES IN PARTICULAR. THERE WAS A GENERAL CONSENSUS THAT THE DEVELOPMENT OF AN INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM FOR REPORTING MILITARY EXPENDITURES IN CONSISTENT AND COMPARABLE TERMS SHOULD BE A RELATIVELY IMPORTANT ITEM FOR THE UN'S SPECIAL SESSION ON DISARMAMENT IN 1978.

SORENSEN.

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UNQUOTE VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY BUDGET, MILITARY EXPENDITURES, MUTUAL FORCE REDUCTIONS, MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 21-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE170026
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: ATURRENTINE
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770259-0660
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770733/aaaabcbq.tel
Line Count: 95
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: fad9ea65-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN ACDA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 124416
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1789328
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: REPORT ON FIRST MEETING OF EXPERT GROUP STUDYING "RE- Duction OF MILITARY BUDGETS"
TAGS: PFOR, PARM, XX, UN, NATO
To: BRASILIA BUENOS AIRES MULTIPLE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/fad9ea65-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009